



I. Math Science Initiative Goal: Engaging the Public

II. Lawrence Hall of Science

Lawrence Hall of Science (LHS) is a singular resource center for preschool through high school science and mathematics education, and a public science center with exciting hands-on experiences for learners of all ages. Established in 1968 at the University of California at Berkeley in honor of Ernest O. Lawrence, UC's first Nobel laureate, Lawrence Hall of Science is a national leader in the development of innovative materials and programs for students, teachers, families, and the public at large.

III. Purpose

The mission of the Lawrence Hall of Science (LHS), at the University of California at Berkeley, is to develop model programs for teaching and learning science and mathematics, and to disseminate these to an ever-increasing audience. The Hall is a resource center for children, parents, educators, and policymakers seeking to improve the understanding and increase the enjoyment of science and mathematics.

IV. Accomplishments/Results

LHS is the University of California at Berkeley's public science center, fostering understanding and enjoyment of science and mathematics for audiences of all ages. LHS has developed expertise and experience in communicating science to the public through exhibits, school programs, instructional materials, professional development and public programs for more than 35 years. The body of LHS work in informal and formal education includes development of dozens of exhibitions, twelve published curricula used by more than 20% of the nation's K-12 students, and hundreds of programs for students and teachers. LHS programs capitalize on a multi-faceted, rigorous approach to public understanding of science. LHS is recognized for its expertise in instructional materials development for the K-12 audience. LHS was a pioneer in the inquiry-driven, direct experience approach to pre-college science instruction, and has successfully conducted numerous federal, state and privately funded projects, including the Full Option Science System (FOSS), the Science Education for Public Understanding Program (SEPUP), the EQUALS/Family Math programs, and Great Explorations in Math and Science (GEMS). These programs are in wide use in every U.S. state as well as internationally and represent a significant contribution to pre-college science and math education.

V. Plans for the next 12 months

The Lawrence Hall of Science will continue its important work in the following areas:

- Developing instructional materials
- Developing and creating original, engaging exhibitions, museum programs, and public activities to increase public understanding of science, math and technology
- Providing customized professional development experiences to individual schools and districts based on their particular needs